PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Meeting of October 7, 1947

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held October 7, 1947 in the American Museum of Natural History. President, Doctor Hagan was in the chair. Fourteen members and four visitors were present.

Miss Joan Pagano of the staff of the American Museum of Natural History was proposed for membership.

Dr. Hagan reported on the picnic of the Society, held June 7, 1947, at the home of Mr. Chris Olsen at West Nyack, N. Y. A rainstorm washed out all plans for collecting, and the site of the picnic was relocated in the Olsen kitchen. Dr. Hagan thanked the Olsens for the fine hospitality extended to the eight members who attended.

The meeting was then opened to general discussions of summer experiences of the group.

Mr. Pallister mentioned a few of his interesting experiences while collecting in Peru. His talk at the October 21 meeting will cover this trip.

Dr. Schneirla spoke of a suspected activity, equivalent of flight, in certain ants. He also spoke of observations on a small ant of the genus Prenolepis, the queen of which is very large. He spoke of the issuance of large numbers of males from some 25 separate but nearby colonies. Only a couple of females issued, and these merely wandered about, while the males congregated in large numbers, flying a distance of only four or five feet, then descending. Dr. Schneirla observed multiple matings and simultaneous multiple matings.

Mr. Teale reported on a mosquito catching cat, which he had observed, and of observations on landing and take-off of dragon-flies at an angle away from the direct beams of the sun. He also reported observing bats attracted to the green light of a neon sign, while ignoring that portion of the same sign, emitting a red glow.

Mr. G. W. Rawson reported he had observed a scarcity of lepidopterous forms over a large part of the eastern states this summer.

Mr. Gual reported an exceptional abundance of Vespinæ, and Dr. Schneirla reported an abundance of ants, throughout the summer months.

Mr. Roman Vishniac reported an abundance of mosquitoes in the cities of Germany, which he visited this summer. They were especially troublesome in Berlin.

F. A. Soraci, *Secretary*

Meeting of October 21, 1947

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held October 21, 1947, in the American Museum of Natural History. President

Dr. Hagan was in the chair. Twenty-seven members and thirty-one visitors were present.

Joan Pagano was elected a member of the Society.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. John C. Pallister, presented an interesting talk on "A Naturalist woes to Peru." Mr. Pallister told of his experiences while on a nine month's insect collecting trip to Peru and the headwaters of the Amazon. The purpose of the trip was to collect in as many as possible of the river valleys of the eastern slope of the Andes.

Mr. Pallister established two base headquarters. The first was at Tingo Maria, in east central Peru, from which he worked the valleys of the Rio Huallaga, Monzon, and Ucayali.

The second base headquarters was at Cuzco, in southeastern Peru, from which he penetrated into the valleys of the Rio Urabamba, Paucartamba, and the Amazonian jungle of the Rio Madre de Dios.

The lecture was illustrated with Kodachrome slides and colored movies.

LINA SORDILLO, *Asssitant Secretary*

Meeting of November 18, 1947

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held November 18, 1947, in the American Museum of Natural History. President Dr. Hagan was in the chair. Nine members and eight visitors were present.

In the absence of the Secretary and Assistant Secretary, Dr. Hagan appointed Mr. John C. Pallister, Acting Secretary.

Mrs. John Hastings, American Museum of Natural History was proposed for membership.

The minutes of a trustee's meeting held November 7, 1947, were read to the Society. The President then appointed a committee of Mr. Teale, Mr. Comstock and Dr. King to take under consideration the action of the Trustees.

The speaker of the evening Dr. Daniel Ludwig, presented an interesting talk—"The Effect of DDT on the Metabolism of the Japanese Beetle."

Dr. Ludwig spoke briefly of the history of DDT from its development in Germany in 1934 to the introduction of the first sample into this country in 1942. He explained that DDT was not a perfect insecticide, but had to be used with caution, because of its effect not only upon other beneficial insects, especially honeybees, but upon animals, birds, fish, and even plants.

Dr. Ludwig found that the eggs and pupa of the Japanese beetle were not effected by DDT except when in the last stages of their development or by unusual contact with the DDT.

The larvæ were poisoned by allowing them to crawl on filter paper wet with 1 percent, 5 percent, and 10 percent solutions of DDT in peanut oil. In all cases there were no recoveries although some survived as long as two weeks. The larvæ shortly after contact with the DDT developed tremors and loss of weight. The greatest loss of weight was in the glycogen contents of the body, the least in the protein.

The adults were very sensitive to DDT.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Acting Secretary*

Meeting of December 2, 1947

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held December 2, 1947, in the American Museum of Natural History. President Doctor Hagan called the meeting to order at 8: 00 P. M. Sixteen members were present.

Mrs. John Hastings was elected to membership.

Mr. Comstock reported for the committee appointed at the November 18, 1947 meeting to consider the action of the trustees at their November 7, 1947 meeting. He reported that the signatures of at least 75 per cent of the membership would be required in order that the society might withdraw funds from its account with the City Bank Farmers Trust Company. These funds would be placed in a savings account. The need for this transfer was explained by Mr. Comstock. Mr. Pallister moved that the necessary resolution be drawn and that the secretary circulate it among the membership. The motion was seconded and approved.

The secretary was instructed to forward congratulations and best wishes for a long and useful life to the Brooklyn Entomological Society on the occasion of their 75th anniversary.

Doctor Herman Spieth then presented his talk on the Museum expedition to North Central Mexico during the summer of 1947. Doctors Cazier, Gertsch, Michener, Spieth and Mr. Schrammell participated in this expedition, the purpose of which was to collect insect, spider, and reptilian specimens. Many beetles, butterflies and spiders were taken, along with a few Drosophila on the trip which carried them from El Paso to Chihuahua, and south to Durango then east and north to Saltillo and Eagle Pass. Their transportation consisted of two jeeps and trailers and one carryall. Many interesting experiences were related and a good sample of the collection was shown.

F. A. Soraci, *Secretary*

Meeting of December 16, 1947

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held December 16, 1947 at the American Museum of Natural History. President Doctor Hagan called the meeting to order at 8: 00 P. M. Sixteen members and six visitors were present. An invitation to the membership to attend the International Congress of Entomology in Sweden during August 1948 was read. The secretary was instructed to write Mr. Dos Passos asking him to represent this society if he attends the congress.

The following committees were appointed for the annual meeting:

Nominating Committee: Mr. Huntington, Doctor Ruckes, Mr. Pallister.

Auditing Committee: Doctor Spieth, Mr. Becker, Doctor Gertsch.

The speaker of the evening, Dr. E. Gorton Linsley, of the Department of Entomology of the University of California was introduced and he presented a talk on the "Biology of Some Meloid Beetles." His talk was concerned primarily with hypermetamorphosis. He described the development of a meloid from the egg to the first stage larva, called "primary larva", also

triungulin (because of the 3 lobed tarsæ consisting of 1 claw with a seta on each side). Upon molting it becomes a "caraboid" larva, then molting to the "first scaraboid" stage and then molting to "second scaraboid" stage. These first four stages are feeding stages. The next molt brings forth a "co-arctate larva." This stage is well protected and extremely resistant. It is immotile and can remain inactive. The next molt produces a motile non feeding stage. This is the final larval stage; the insect now pupates and the adult emerges. Doctor Linsley described this development as apparent degeneration from the primary larva to the non motile stage, then a reversal of the process to maturity.

Similar development was described in the Strepsiptera and in the Syrphidæ and Bombyliidæ of the Diptera. Hypermetamorphosis is also present in the neuropteron, Mantispa. For the primary larvæ of the Meloidæ he reported two main types of food (1) parasites on eggs of grasshoppers (2) parasites in nests of bees and wasps. The habits of the primary larvæ in reaching their hosts are used in distinguishing the subfamilies Meloinæ and Nemognathinæ within the Meloidæ.

FRANK A. SORACI, *Secretary*